

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 USSS-00 SY-04 SCCT-01 FBIE-00 /068 W

----- 066578

R 281600Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 674

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 0157

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, SL

SUBJECT: COURT MARTIAL NEARING CONCLUSION

REF: FREETOWN 0070

1. COURT MARTIAL OF ARMY WARRANT OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN ON TREASON CHARGES STEMMING FROM JULY 30, 1974 BOMBING NEARING CONCLUSION WITH VERDICT DUE WITHIN NEXT DAY OR TWO. PROSECUTION WITHDREW CASE AGAINST ONE OF NINE DEFENDANTS ON JANUARY 17, LEAVING EIGHT STILL CHARGED.

2. WIDELY EXPECTED THAT EIGHT REMAINING DEFENDANTS WILL BE FOUND GUILTY AND PROBABLY SENTENCED TO BE SHOT. EXECUTIONS, IF DEATH SENTENCE HANDED DOWN, COULD FOLLOW PROMPTLY SINCE UNDER SL MILITARY LAW THERE NO RIGHT OF APPEAL FROM VERDICTS OF COURTS MARTIAL. THERE SOME SPECULATION, HOWEVER, THAT DEATH SENTENCES, IF HANDED DOWN, MIGHT BE SUSPENDED UNTIL APPEAL OF PRINCIPAL TREASON TRIAL DEFENDANTS HEARD AND FINAL POLITICAL DECISION REACHED ON WHETHER THEY TO BE EXECUTED, SINCE IT COULD CAUSE POLITICAL PROBLEMS AMONG BOTH PUBLIC AND MILITARY IF LESSER MILITARY MEMBERS OF BOMBING PLOT

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GROUP EXECUTED AND MAJOR CIVILIAN PLOT LEADERS SUBSEQUENTLY

HAVE SENTENCES REDUCED TO LONG TERM IMPRISONMENT.

3. IN VIEW POSSIBILITY SENTENCES AND/OR EXECUTIONS OF  
MILITARY PERSONNEL INVOLVED COULD LEAD TO RENEWED THREATS  
AGAINST SL EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN WASHINGTON, EMBASSY WILL  
ATTEMPT ADVISE SOONEST ON OUTCOME COURT MARTIAL.  
SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOMBING, TREASON, PLOTS, COURTS MARTIAL  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JAN 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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